



EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 1644

S/N 08/991,143

RECEIVED

APR 01 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bianca M. Conti-Fine

Examiner: Patrick J. Nolan

Serial No.: 08/991,143

Group Art Unit: 1644

Filed: December 16, 1997

Docket: 600.423US1

Title: METHODS TO TREAT UNDESIRABLE IMMUNE RESPONSES

#33/9

gnd

4/2/02

(N.E.)

AMENDMENT & RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the final Office Action mailed December 18, 2001, please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims

Please substitute the claim set in the appendix entitled "Clean Version of Pending Claims" for the previously pending claim set. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Four times amended) A method of preventing or inhibiting an indication or disease associated with aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production which is specific for a particular endogenous antigen, comprising: administering to the respiratory tract of a human afflicted with, or at risk of, the indication or disease a dosage form comprising an amount of at least one epitope peptide, [or a combination thereof,] wherein the administration of the dosage form is effective to alter the aberrant, pathogenic or undesirable antibody production in humans having divergent HLA haplotypes, wherein the sequence of the epitope peptide comprises a universal, immunodominant epitope, and wherein the peptide comprises less than the sequence of the endogenous antigen.
2. (Four times amended) A method of suppressing, tolerizing or inhibiting the priming or activity of CD4⁺ T cells which are associated with antibody production specific for a